

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant originally submitted Claims 1-28 in the application. In a previous response, the Applicant amended Claims 1, 8, 15 and 22, added Claims 29-43 and canceled Claims 2, 9, 16 and 22 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-21 and 23-43 are currently pending in the application.

In the Examiner's Final Rejection, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-21, 23-28 and 39-43 are allowable. As argued below, the Applicant believes all of the pending claims are allowable.

I. Rejection of Claims 29-38 under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has rejected Claims 29-38 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0097791 for Hansen. In response to the Examiner's reliance on Hansen, the Applicant submits herewith an Affidavit under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 and Exhibit A. Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of an invention submission form submitted for preparation of a U.S. patent application.

The Affidavit and Exhibit A conclusively provide evidence that establishes the present invention was conceived prior to the filing date of Hansen (December 19, 2000) and diligently filed thereafter. As a result, Hansen is antedated by the present invention. Thus, Hansen is not a proper prior art reference and does not anticipate independent Claims 29 and 34 and Claims dependent thereon. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the §102(e) rejection of Claims 29-38 and allow issuance thereof.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant now sees all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicits a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-21 and 23-43.

The Applicant requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated:

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